

**SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS REGIONAL PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**2000 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY**

Submitted to: Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
111 North Canal, Suite 855
Chicago, IL 60606-7204

Attention: Robert Sawyer, Regional Director

Prepared by: Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning
and Development Commission
Kimberly Watson, Executive Director
508 West Locust Street
P.O. Box 606
Harrisburg, Illinois 62946
(618) 252-7463

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GOALS

The following is a list of goals and objectives which have been identified by the CEDS Committee, which are used to guide the District's economic and community development programs.

Primary Goals

GOAL 1:

NEW JOB GENERATION:

Utilize the Revolving Loan Fund and Micro Lending Programs to lower the Region's unemployment rate.

GOAL 2:

MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

Expand and/or upgrade existing or nonexistent water and sewer systems, assist in obtaining funds for the construction of community buildings, sidewalk repairs, parking facilities,

courthouse renovations and jail facilities and assist local governments and water districts to comply with the regulations of the Clean Water Act of 1986.

GOAL 3:

IMPROVE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF HOUSING:

Promote the quality and quantity of housing in the Region in order to meet the needs of the Region's residents.

GOAL 4:

STRENGTHEN MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS:

Assist local units of government to stay abreast of new legislation and assist in the promotion of new technical improvements in order to provide the District's residents with up-to-date police and fire protection.

GOAL 5:

PROMOTE TOURISM INDUSTRY:

Expand the job opportunities of the area through the promotion of tourism.

GOAL 6:

PROMOTE NATURAL RESOURCES OF AREA:

Assist local governments to promote and businesses to utilize the natural resources of the District and promote the diversification of the agriculture and agri-business industries.

Secondary Goals:

GOAL 1:

DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES:

Prepare residents to successfully compete for employment opportunities, both inside and outside of the Region, including retraining to meet the new and changing demands in business and industry.

GOAL 2:

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY EXPANSION:

Increase the educational level of the Region's residents.

GOAL 3:

IMPROVE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION:

Upgrade the Region's transportation network.

GOAL 4:

PROMOTE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING PROGRAM

Promote the establishment of solid waste disposal and recycling programs in the Region.

GOAL 5:

IMPROVE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS:

Promote the expansion of health care facilities in the Region.
V. & VI.

OBJECTIVES & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

The following list of goals and objectives have been identified to guide the District's community and economic development programs. These goals have been prioritized as to primary goals and secondary goals.

Primary Goals:

GOAL 1:

NEW JOB GENERATION:

Utilize the Revolving Loan Fund and Micro Lending Program to lower the Region's unemployment rate.

OBJECTIVE:

A. Have the Region's unemployment rate equal to or below the State of Illinois, level by the year 2005.

POLICIES:

1. Pursue funding for the development of industrial parks and sites.
2. Expand the Hamilton County Enterprise Zone Program.
3. Promote an active marketing program for Hamilton County.
4. Develop marketing materials for the Southeastern District counties.
5. Expand the Saline County Enterprise Zone Program and develop marketing materials.
- B. Promote the expansion of the timber market and Southern Illinois Coal market.
 1. Coordinate with the Resource Conservation Development (RC & D) for the development of the timber market.
 2. Coordinate with State wood marketing groups for the location of secondary wood processors.
 3. Promote funding for clean coal technology for the Region's coal market.
 4. Promote the exportation of the Region's coal to Europe and Asian markets.
 5. Promote the multi-use of the Shawnee National Forest.
 6. Promote the utilization of the Coal Infrastructure Program thru the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.
- C. Promote the use of JTPA and other vocational training programs as economic development incentives.
 1. Promote the use of on-the-job training contracts in economic development proposals to business location clients.
 2. Promote the retraining of the Region's coal miners for other job classification.
 3. Promote labor-management groups to create lines of communication to reduce work slow-downs and stoppages.

- D. Use the regional and local Revolving Loan Fund Programs, Micro Lending Program and other state and federal business loan programs to induce economic development within the District.
 - 1. Pursue recapitalization of the District Revolving Loan Fund
 - 2. Encourage localities to include regional RLF funds in local economic development proposals and to pursue additional RLF funds.
 - 3. To publicize- through personal contacts and newspapers the availability of funds.
- E. Interact with other economic development groups both in and out of the District.
 - 1. Coordinate and cooperate with other Economic Development Districts in Southern Illinois and in the State of Illinois in order to promote state funding for Economic Development Districts and Southern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commissions.
 - 2. Participate with the tourism groups for economic development and tourism projects for the region.
 - 3. To work with and provide technical assistance to the District chambers of commerce and the economic development groups of the District.
 - 4. To work with the representatives of utility companies to increase economic development expertise and to combine economic development resources.
 - 5. To maintain strong working relationships with all funding agencies.
 - 6. To coordinate tourism development and marketing activities with the Southern Illinois Regional Tourism Bureau and the Shawnee Convention and Tourism Bureau.
 - 7. To promote Heritage Tourism Pilot Project and Ohio River Scenic Byway Program.
- F. Use the Administrative Services Program to induce local economic development.
 - 1. To expand the Lender Commitment Program throughout the District.
 - 2. To encourage District banking institutions to consider longer financing terms for economic development projects.
 - 3. To encourage banking commitment to economic development financing.

GOAL 2:

MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES:

Expand and/or upgrade existing or nonexistent water and sewer systems, assist in obtaining funds for the construction of community buildings, sidewalk repairs, parking facilities, courthouse renovations and jail facilities and assist local governments and water districts to comply with the regulations of the Clean Water Act of 1986.

OBJECTIVE:

A. Continually upgrade the Region's facilities as financial resources become available.

POLICIES:

1. improve municipal water systems:
 - a. City of Golconda distribution lines
 - b. Village of Elizabethtown source and distribution lines
 - c. Village of Cave-in-Rock distribution lines
 - d. Village of Carrier Mills distribution lines
 - e. Village of Muddy storage capacity
 - f. City of McLeansboro distribution lines
 - g. Village of New Haven distribution lines
 - h. Village of Equality distribution lines
 - I. Village of Stonefort storage
 - j. Village of Omaha source and distribution lines
 - k. Village of Ridgway source and distribution lines
 - l. Village of Old Shawneetown source and distribution lines
 - m. City of Eldorado distribution lines and storage
 - n. Village of Old Shawneetown distribution lines
 - o. City of Rosiclare distribution lines
 - p. City of Shawneetown source and distribution lines
2. Improve rural water district's systems:
 - a. Saline Valley Conservancy District expansion of distribution lines and upgrades at treatment plant
 - b. Dale Water District distribution lines
 - C. Hardin County Water Company expansion of distribution lines
 - d. Millstone Water District expansion of distribution lines
 - e. Raleigh Water District distribution lines
 - f. Liberty-Ledford Water District distribution lines
 - g. Gallatin-White Water District source and expansion of distribution lines
 - h. Corinth Water District expansion of distribution lines
 - I. Mitchellsville Water District distribution lines
 - j. Hardin County Water District expansion of distribution lines
 - k. Hamilton County Water District expansion of distribution lines and storage capacity
1. Mitchellsville Water District expansion of distribution lines
3. Construction of new municipal sewage treatment facilities and/or improvements:

- a. Village of Junction
- b. Village of Cave-in-Rock
- c. Village of Omaha
- d. City of McLeansboro
- e. City of Rosiclare
- f. Village of Elizabethtown
- g. Village of Ridgway
- h. City of Eldorado
- i. City of Shawneetown
- j. Village of Galatia
- k. City of Harrisburg

4. Construct community center, civic center or multi-purpose municipal building and/or improvements:

- a. Village of Muddy
- b. Village of Ridgway
- c. Village of Cave-in-Rock
- d. City of McLeansboro
- e. City of Harrisburg
- f. City of Shawneetown

5. County buildings compliance with American with Disabilities Act and renovations:

- a. Hardin County Courthouse
- b. Pope County Courthouse
- c. Gallatin County Courthouse

- d. Saline County Courthouse
- e. Hamilton County Courthouse
- f. Harrisburg City Hall
- g. Golconda City Hall
- h. McLeansboro City Hall

6. Construct jail facilities:

- a. Hamilton County

7. Flood control projects:

- a. City of Harrisburg
- b. City of Eldorado
- c. East Eldorado Township
- d. City of Golconda
- e. Village of Broughton
- f. Big Creek Flood Control project

GOAL 3:

IMPROVE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF HOUSING:

Promote the quality and quantity of housing in the Region in order to meet the needs of the Region's residents.

OBJECTIVE:

- 1. Increase the quality and/or quantity of housing in the Region by the year.2005.

POLICIES:

- 1. Promote increasing public housing to meet the public housing needs throughout the Region.
- 2. Promote private development of housing units and subdivisions.
- 3. Promote housing rehabilitation projects for low-to-moderate income persons utilizing the Illinois Community Development Assistance Program, Rural Development housing programs, Illinois Housing Trust Funds, etc.
- 4. Increase the number of housing units for the elderly.

GOAL 4:

STRENGTHEN MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS:

Assist local units of government to stay abreast of new legislation and assist in the promotion of new technical improvements in order to provide the District's residents with up-to-date police and fire protection.

OBJECTIVE:

- 1. Provide technical assistance to units of local government concerning state and federal legislation.
- 2. Provide technical assistance to units of local government on the process of formulating goals and capital improvement plans and budgets.

POLICIES:

- 1. Encourage local elected officials to attend workshops relating to the operation of municipal governments and other regulatory topics such as solid waste management.
- 2. Encourage the establishment of a permanent surcharge for use by local governments.
- 3. Promote the adoption of personnel policies and safety plans to limit the liability exposure of local governments.
- 4. Work with local governments to obtain state and federal funding for community facility projects.
- 5. Assist local governments in the budgeting process and inform local officials on new government financing techniques and of the opportunities involved with privatization of local government services.
- 6. Act as a liaison agency to promote local needs at the state and federal level.
- 7. Improve local governments through the clearinghouse process.

8. Assist local governments with solid waste management activities and encourage the establishment of intergovernmental groups to address solid waste management.

OBJECTIVE: To protect the residents of the region.

POLICIES:

1. Promote county-wide 911 communications systems and Networking possibilities for multi-county systems.
2. Encourage security patrols for the Shawnee National Forest and other unincorporated areas.
3. Increase police protection in the District communities and counties.
4. Promote the modernization of local fire fighting equipment.
5. Promote the establishment of county-wide fire districts and intra-county networking.
7. Promote the establishment of centralized dispatching.
8. Promote the establishment of fire hydrants in rural areas.
9. Promote Emergency Services Disaster Agencies and encourage the exploration of grant funds for equipment, etc. ,
10. Work with fire departments to address potential legislation affecting equipment and training requirements.
11. Assist fire districts in the application processes.
12. Promote drug and gang awareness programs.
13. Promote the use of the COPS and other Department of Justice Programs.
14. Promote the DARE program in the School Districts.

GOAL 5:

PROMOTE TOURISM INDUSTRY:

Expand the job opportunities of the area through the promotion of tourism.

OBJECTIVE:

1. Expand and develop the potential of the area for recreation and tourism.
- a. Coordinate with existing tourism groups to market the potential of the region.

POLICIES:

- a. Promote the development of the Elizabethtown and Cave-in-Rock riverfronts.
- b. Encourage development of designated Shawnee Hills on the Ohio Scenic Byway and Heritage Tourism Project area.
- c. Promote large scale tourism development in southeastern Illinois.
- d. Promote the increase of signage of the Shawnee National Forest.
- e. Promote Southeastern Illinois Council or organization to pursue tourism activities.
- f. Promote Battery Rock area in Hardin County for tourism development and river to river trail development.
- g. Promote the development of the Powell House in Pope County to the Illinois Department of Conservation.
- h. Promote the location of a major hotel/lodge at Rauchfuss Hill

in Pope County and the renovation of the Dam Houses in Golconda.

- I. Develop brochures and other advertising measures to promote tourism.
- j. Develop and/or improve water access facilities at the following:
 - 1.City of Rosiclare
 - 2.Village of New Haven
 - 3.Village of Cave-in-Rock
 - 4.Village of Elizabethtown
 - 5.City of Golconda
 - 6.Village of Old Shawneetown
- k. Promote tourism centers in Harrisburg, Gallatin, Pope and Hardin counties.
- l. Promote the establishment of a marina and gambling boat at Old Shawneetown.
- m.Promote historical preservation at the following:
 - 1. McCoy Library in McLeansboro
 - 2. Saline County Historical Museum
 - 3. Mansion in Golconda
 - 4. Marshall House Bank and First National Bank in Old Shawneetown
 - 5.Rose Hotel in Elizabethtown
 - 6.St. James Episcopal Church in Hamilton County
 - 7.Dahlgren Depot
 - 8.Dam 51 Houses in Golconda
 - 9.Westwood Cemetery
 - 10.Cave-in-Rock
 - 11.Battery Rock in Hardin County
 - 12.Camp Mather/Camp Logan near New Shawneetown
- n. Promote recreational facilities to compliment the Golconda Marina and other sites in Gallatin, Hardin and Pope counties.
- o. Work with other agencies in promoting tourism.
- p. Encourage local tourism groups to utilize public dollars to develop brochures and response centers to receive information requests for prospective visitors.
- q. Provide technical assistance and seek funding for the establishment of and/or improvements to parks within the Region utilizing the state Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.
- r. Promote the development of additional lodging facilities.
- s. Promote additional cabins at Cave-in-Rock State Park.
- t. Work with Southern Illinois Tourism and Convention Bureau to promote Southeastern Illinois.
- u. Work with the Gallatin County Environmental Center
- v. Work to develop tourism economic development packages for the region.
- w. Promote the Region as a retirement center.
- x. Promote the National Scenic Byway and the Heritage Tourism Pilot Projects.
- z. Promote the National Civil War Trail developmentt

GOAL 6:

PROMOTE NATURAL RESOURCES OF AREA:

Assist local governments to promote and businesses to utilize the natural resburces of the District and promote the diversification of the agriculture and agri-business industries.

OBJECTIVE:

1. To provide information on regulation of local natural resources and to coordinate development activities with citizens and governmental agencies.
2. To sustain and further develop the agriculture industry to further coordinate agriculture opportunities and government policies to District citizens.

POLICIES:

1. Develop business/ industry for coal, fluorspar, oil and other minerals and at the same time protect the environment.
2. Use environmental conservation efforts to protect and preserve the existing environment.
3. To promote good forest management and multiple forest uses for the Shawnee National Forest.
4. To promote the natural resources of the area by soliciting secondary natural resource processors.
5. Promote efficient and profitable production of traditional crops and livestock with an environmentally sound management system.
6. Promote crop diversification and cropping alternatives within the Region.
7. Promote the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, Coal Infrastructure Program.

Secondary Goals:

GOAL 1:

DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES:

Prepare residents to successfully compete for employment opportunities, both inside and outside of the Region, including retraining to meet the new and changing demands in business and industry.

OBJECTIVE:

- a. To place the region's unemployed and underemployed in classroom and work-site training programs and to increase the overall employee skill level which will encourage economic development.

POLICIES:

- a. Promote programs which can draw into the labor force the untapped, unskilled and semi-skilled persons in the region.
- b. Support the efforts of agencies which have the mission and resources to implement the necessary educational/training and job placement activities to create a more skilled labor force.
- c. Promote a local wage determination study which appropriately details the local wages received by laborers.
- d. Promote labor management groups to increase open communications and increased job opportunities.
- e. Promote a labor-management study which characterizes improved labor relations.
- f. Promote the diversification of available technical training.
- g. Encourage the development of trade school offerings to certificate, journeyman and/or associate degree level at Southeastern Illinois College.
- h. Encourage the region's high schools to upgrade and expand vocational training programs.
- I. Promote the programs offered by the SIC Small Business Development Center.

GOAL 2:

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY EXPANSION:

Increase the educational level of the Region's residents.

OBJECTIVE:

- A. Provide the labor force with educated and trained workers.
- B. To strengthen the Districts school systems and junior college to increase the basic education and skill level of the District.

POLICIES:

1. Promote vocational training to targeted industries of the District.
2. Provide technical assistance for the modernization and expansion of the Region's educational and vocational facilities.
3. Promote programs to reduce the number of high school drop-outs.
4. Create a climate within the school which will decrease negative environmental influences and allows students to reach their educational potential.
5. Provide educational opportunities to create a skilled work

force.

6. To offer educational programs that will enhance the economic development of the Southeastern Illinois Region.
7. Increase the education level of all citizens in the Region in order to enhance basic education, improve learning* ability and improve the Southeastern Regions labor market.

GOAL 3:

IMPROVE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION:

Upgrade the Region's transportation network.

OBJECTIVE:

1. obtain a four-lane highway system and to improve the standards of the Regions secondary roads and bridges.

POLICIES:

1. Promote the construction of Route 13 between Harrisburg and Shawneetown Bridge into a four-lane highway.
2. Make necessary repairs of the Regions state highways and ,secondary roads.
3. Pursue federal Scenic Byway funds for the Shawnee Hills on the Ohio Scenic Byway.
4. Promote improvements to Illinois Routes 1 and 145.
5. Promote regular maintenance of the Regions secondary roads and promote cooperation agreements with counties, cities, villages and United States Forest Service.
6. Promote public transportation systems for the elderly.
7. Promote the establishment of a regional transportation committee to propose and promote the transportation needs of the District.
8. Promote the expansion of the McLeansboro Airport expansion of runways, taxi ways and resurfacing projects.
9. Promote cooperation between county road officials and district road officials to coordinate a long-term road maintenance program.
10. Promote runway enlargements and other improvements for Harrisburg-Raleilh Airport.
11. Work with regional and local authorities to market and further develop port facilities for Gallatin and Hardin counties.
12. Encourage improved maintenance of township roads.
13. Work with County Engineers to pursue various grant programs.

14. Work with County Engineers to upgrade portions of the designated National Scenic Byway.

GOAL 4:

PROMOTE SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING PROGRAM:

Promote the establishment of solid waste disposal and recycling programs in the Region.

OBJECTIVE: To meet the recycling goals of the region.

POLICIES:

1. Encourage and assist in the set up and implementation of recycling programs in the region.
2. Promote recycling grant programs to businesses in the district.

GOAL 5:

IMPROVE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS:

Promote the expansion of health care facilities in the Region.

OBJECTIVE:

1. Provide health care facilities to the Regions residents.
2. To strengthen the Districts health care systems and health care providers.
3. To expand and upgrade the Districts ambulance services.

POLICIES:

1. Pursue grants for the Harrisburg Medical Center.
2. Promote the establishment of a regional hospital system with networking capabilities to serve rural counties.
3. Develop promotional materials to solicit health care professionals to locate within the Region.
4. Develop and/or expand home health care services.
5. Develop and/or expand services for the elderly.
6. Construct a building for the Hardin County Golden Circle.
7. Encourage cooperation among health planning organizations.
8. Support emergency room service and ambulance services throughout the Region.
9. Promote and support the establishment or expansion of insurance for the middle age category who are not eligible for insurance.
10. Encourage changes in legislation to stabilize insurance rates for health care personnel and facilities.

11. Provide adequate health care and emergency services for residents of the Southeastern Region.
12. To promote quality health care at a reasonable cost.
13. Encourage the upgrade and expansion of the Regions nursing homes.
14. Increase public/private partnership programs for disease, chemical and physical abuse victims to improve the general well being of residents and reduce stress and all kinds of abuse throughout the Region.
15. Promote the establishment of obstetrical care in the Region.
16. Promote assisted living programs.
17. Promote adult day care concept programs.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The following strategies correspond with the stated goals of the Commission and outline the implementation of the economic development program of the Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission staff and board will participate in a joint effort with other local and statewide agencies toward achieving the goal of decreasing the unemployment rate of the region. The staff will pursue funding for the development of industrial parks and sites as locations for industrial development. Staff will also promote the expansion of the timber market and the markets for other natural resources of Southeastern Illinois. The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will utilize the regional and local revolving loan funds and other incentive programs to induce economic development. The availability of funds will be publicized through personal contacts, newspaper articles and interaction with economic development groups. District staff will continue efforts to recapitalize the District Revolving Loan Fund. Staff will continue to work with local tourism groups to expand the tourism market of Southeastern Illinois.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will work with local municipal and county governments to obtain funding for community facility improvements through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, Illinois Department of Conservation, Economic Development Administration, Farmers Home Administration, Illinois Rural Bond Bank and Illinois Development Finance Authority. Community facility projects include -water, sewer, public buildings and flood control projects.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will participate in a joint effort with local, state

and federal agencies in an effort to meet the housing needs of the Region's residents, promote increased funding for homeless problems in rural areas, assist local units of government in pursuing housing rehabilitation grants and work with District financial institutions to establish loan programs to encourage housing rehabilitation and development. Funds will be pursued through the Illinois Housing Development Authority and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will work with local governments in order to strengthen the local units of government and will act as a consultant to assist the local units of government to establish standard operating procedures in personnel and safety. SIRP&DC will provide technical assistance to local units of government pertaining to legislation, contact with our legislators and in formulating capital improvement plans for water and sewer improvements.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will work with local officials, state and federal agencies in the promotion of the District as a tourism destination. Specific tourism development projects have been identified and funding will be pursued for the implementation of these projects. The Commission will work with Main Street Golconda, Inc. and other entities to promote the National Scenic Byway and Heritage Tourism Pilot Projects.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will participate with other local, areawide and statewide agencies toward achieving the development of the human resource base of the District. In addition, the Commission will produce economic development information concerning the labor force characteristics, promote a local wage determination, promote labor-management groups and a labor-management study of the District.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will develop economic development information concerning the educational institutions of the area, involve job training officials with economic development location clients to provide job-training needs, encourage legislation to prohibit drop-outs under the age of 18 from obtaining a driver's license, promote drug and alcohol abuse programs in the schools, promote sex education in local schools aimed at the prevention of teenage pregnancy, promote day care centers at local high schools to encourage teenage parents to stay in school and to teach other students the responsibilities of being a parent, promote additional social counseling programs, promote vocational training in local high schools, vocational centers and junior colleges, encourage educators to work with area industries to determine labor force requirements, promote work/study programs, promote literacy programs and encourage adults to utilize the Junior college system to expand educational opportunities.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development

commission will work with local, state and federal agencies in order to improve and upgrade the transportation network of the District. The Commission will work with the County Engineers to take advantage of potential funding sources.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will promote and assist the local units of government to establish solid waste disposal and recycling programs in the District and will assist the local units of government in the preparation of Solid Waste Management Plans. SIRP&DC will conduct research into the cost effectiveness of various recycling programs.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will work with the health care facilities of the Region, state and federal agencies and local governments to achieve the expansion and upgrades of health care facilities in the District. SIRP&DC will encourage state legislation that will decrease the financial risk of providing medical services in rural areas and support regional health department programs and clinics for rural areas.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will work with local, state and other officials to provide the Districts residents with up-to-date police and fire protection, promote the federal surplus equipment program and fire equipment grant programs, promote the establishment of rural fire districts and promote the upgrade of equipment in existing municipal fire departments.

The Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission will promote the utilization of the natural resources of the Region, encourage strong working relationships between local, state and federal environmental officials, encourage the development of Shawnee National Forest potential for recreation, tourism, timber and other multi-use purposes, support agricultural infrastructure, encourage the development and utilization of agricultural services and centers, support farm credit system and encourage financial institutions to make credit available to farmers and agri-business, support agricultural production research and diversification and work with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts to improve water quality and preserve the soil. The Commission will work to promote the Coal Infrastructure Program.

The Scope of Work for the District is composed of projects that are both short-term and long-term and of an ongoing basis. The planning process includes the establishment of goals and objectives and an evaluation of the process. Listed below is the Scope of Work:

I. Planning Projects

A. Business Programs

1. Continue to provide assistance to municipalities and counties to develop formal economic development industry expansion and retention programs.
2. Continue to work with other local, state and federal agencies in the development and promotion of economic and community development policies and strategies for regional development.
3. Continue to work with various tourism groups to promote the National Scenic Byway and Heritage Tourism Pilot Projects.

B. Preparation of Community Profiles

1. Continue to prepare and update community profiles of District localities.
2. Continue to prepare and update Enterprise Zone brochures.
3. Continue to update and maintain a building and site information file.
4. Continue to work with tourism groups to develop brochures.
5. Maintain a regional website.

II. Planning Activities

- A. Continue to promote the goals and strategies of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).
- B. Continue to provide assistance to county and municipal governments in the areas of planning, implementation, guidelines, legislation interpretation and grant application preparation.
- C. Continue to provide assistance to economic development groups, tourism groups and special purpose districts.
- D. Continue to provide grant alerts to local units of government.

III. Administrative Planning:

- A. Staff will continue to prepare and submit an annual CEDS Update.
- B. Staff will prepare one Annual and two Semi-Annual Report for submittal to EDA for required submittal periods.
- C. Staff will prepare four quarterly Financial Reports of submittal to EDA and will have an annual audit as required by Planning Grant and Office of Audits, Inspector Generals Office.

- D. Staff will continue to administer the Revolving Loan Fund and will submit two semi-annual RLF reports to EDA and to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.
- E. Staff will supply information concerning plant closings and the status of industrial development within the District annually and as required by EDA.
- F. Staff will continue to prepare grant applications and administer grants on behalf of district local units of government.